REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.)   Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 2, 5, 16, and 17. Claims 4, 9, 20, and 21 have been canceled herein, and claims 1, 6, 14, 15, 18, and 19 were previously canceled. Accordingly, claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10-13, 16, and 17 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Independent claim 5 has been amended by incorporating the limitations of dependent claims 4 and 9, which have been canceled. Corresponding amendments have been made to independent claims 16 and 17 to incorporate the limitations of dependent claims 20 and 21, respectively, and claims 20 and 21 have been canceled.

Newly cited Foster (GB 2367206) appears to disclose the use of SIP signaling to establish a circuit switched connection over an interface. While it appears this signaling is carried by a packet switched access network, there is no detailed description in Foster of the specific steps which are used to establish the circuit switched call once the signaling has been exchanged between the user equipment and the relevant nodes of the IMS. Reference is made to step number 40 described on page 10 of Foster, which relates to establishment of the UE (circuit switched) call. This step merely refers to the UE communicating in "circuit-mode" with the RNC (Radio Network Controller).

The present invention addresses the problem of indicating to the calling UE, the destination number to which the circuit switched call should be made. Prior to exchanging the SIP signaling, the identity of the gateway which will be used to terminate the call is unknown. This is determined by the relevant SIP server, for example based upon the current location of the calling party. The solution adopted by the present invention is to transmit from the gateway server, a callback number which is a number "owned" by the gateway server. When the calling UE calls the callback number, a circuit switched connection is established between the UE and the gateway server.

There is nothing in Foster or any of the other documents previously cited by the Examiner that teaches or suggests this solution as recited in the amended claims.

Therefore, the allowance of claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10-13, 16, and 17 is respectfully requested.

2.)   Specification Amendments

In the Notice of Allowability, the Examiner objected to the specification for not including an abstract of the disclosure. The Applicants note that an abstract was provided on page 22 of the originally filed specification. Due to several informalities in the original abstract, however, the Applicants have submitted a new abstract. Approval of the new abstract is respectfully requested.
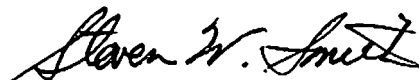
3.)   Drawing Amendments

In the Notice of Allowability, the Examiner objected to the drawings for lacking descriptive labels. The only figure lacking labels was Fig. 3. The Applicants have amended Fig. 3 to provide the descriptive labels as described on page 10 of the specification. Approval of amended Fig. 3 is respectfully requested.

4.)   Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10-13, 16, and 17.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:_____June 1, 2010_____

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